



**CITY OF MERRILL**  
**CITY PLAN COMMISSION**  
**AGENDA • TUESDAY JULY 7, 2015**

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**Regular Meeting**

**City Hall Council Chambers**

**5:30 PM**

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- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Comment Period
- III. Minutes of previous meeting(s):
  1. Minutes of June 2, 2015 meeting
- IV. Agenda items related to update of City Comprehensive Plan:
  1. Review and recommendation(s) on Public Participation Plan
  2. Review draft of Comprehensive Plan Chapter 1: Demographics
  3. Presentation and discussion of housing data
- V. Establish date, time and location of next meeting
- VI. Adjournment



**CITY OF MERRILL**  
**CITY PLAN COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES • TUESDAY JUNE 2, 2015**

**Regular Meeting**

**City Hall Council Chambers**

**6:00 PM**

I. Call to Order

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Pete Lokemoen	Aldersperson - Second District	Present	
Bill Bialecki	Mayor	Present	
Mike Willman		Present	
Ralph Sturm		Absent	
Melissa Schroeder		Present	
Ken Maule		Present	
Robert Reimann		Present	

Others attendees included: City Administrator Dave Johnson, City Attorney Tom Hayden, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Darin Pagel and City Clerk Bill Heideman.

II. Public Comment Period

No public comment.

III. Minutes of Previous Meeting(s):

1. Minutes of May 5, 2015 meeting

The minutes were in the meeting packet.

Motion (Schroeder/Lokemoen) to approve the minutes of the May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting.

<b>RESULT:            APPROVED</b>
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IV. Public Hearing:

1. Consider proposed amendment of Conditional Use Permit application by Austin Management (Merrill Ridge Plaza), 3404 East Main Street, for a proposed modular wood structure for a drive-thru for Park City Credit Union on vacant land next to 3404 East Main Street (Lee's Piggly Wiggly).

City Attorney Hayden read the public hearing notice.

Motion (Lokemoen/Maule) to open the public hearing. Carried.

Nobody spoke during the public hearing.

Motion (Willman/Maule) to close the public hearing. Carried.

Attachment: Minutes of 2015-06-02 meeting (1132 : Minutes of June 2, 2015 meeting)

Alderman Lokemoen inquired as to the plans for the external material for the structure. He stated the he hoped it would be masonry on the south and west sides. Representing Park City Credit Union, Brian Severt stated that, although to date no decision has been made on the type of exterior material, he pledged that the structure would look professional. In response to that, Alderman Maule stated that, in his opinion, it is not necessary to include any type of exterior material requirement in the Conditional Use Permit amendment.

Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Pagel stated that he has no concerns with the application as submitted.

Motion (Maule/Schroeder) to approve the Conditional Use Permit amendment application as submitted. Carried.

The Conditional Use Permit amendment will be considered, as a resolution, at the June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Common Council meeting.

V. **Schedule date, time and location of next meeting**

Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 P.M., in the City Hall Common Council Chambers. The start time of the meeting may be changed if a public hearing is scheduled as part of the meeting.

VI. **Adjournment**

Motion (Lokemoen/Reimann) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 6:07 P.M.

## CITY OF MERRILL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

This plan sets forth the techniques the City will use to meet the goal of public participation. Therefore, this Public Participation Plan (PPP) forms the basic framework to inform and involve the public in the comprehensive planning process.

The creation of the Public Participation Plan is a task required in meeting the requirements of Wisconsin's Comprehensive Planning Legislation (State Statute 66.1001). As the planning process develops, it should be expected that deviations from the plan might occur.

### I. Objectives:

The following is a list of public participation objectives the City would like to achieve throughout the development and subsequent adoption of the Comprehensive Plan:

- Residents become aware of the importance of participating in the development of the Comprehensive Plan.
- That the public participation process be designed to engage all areas of the City.
- All members of the community are represented during the planning process.
- That the public has opportunities to provide their input (both formally and informally) at any time to the City throughout the planning process.
- That the public has access to all technical information and any analyses performed throughout the planning process.
- That input is elicited through a variety of means (electronic, printed, and oral) in such a way that it may be carefully considered and responded to.
- The process will involve key community groups such as the Chamber of Commerce, downtown groups, housing groups, and economic development organizations.
- That this process of public involvement strengthens the sense of community in the City.
- Gather public feedback about community desires for the future of the City of Merrill.
- Collaboration with the citizens in developing the comprehensive plans goals, objectives, and policies.
- Disseminate community input to ultimate decision makers for their consideration

The goal will be to inform, involve, and collaborate with the public and the community throughout the planning process. Successful involvement of the entire community will ensure all issues and community desires are considered and the goals created reflect the entire community's vision.

## II. Techniques:

The public participation plan for the comprehensive plan will incorporate the following:

1. All meetings for the comprehensive plan process will be posted and open to the public. Updates will be made to the City Council from time to time. Many of these meetings will be televised on the local public access channel.
2. An open house type meeting will be held mid-way through the process and a public hearing will be held at the end of the process.
3. A planning website will be hosted by the NCWRPC for the City of Merrill Comprehensive Plan. The website will not only display data, but will also allow for comments to be submitted.
4. Key community stakeholders and groups will be identified and engaged to review the Comprehensive Plan.
5. A "comprehensive planning" display will be maintained in the lobby of City Hall that includes maps and an overview of the plan process. Comment sheets will be available as well.
6. An electronic planning survey will be conducted to gather public feedback about community desires for the City of Merrill.
7. A planning Social Media page (e.g. Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter) will be hosted by the City of Merrill for the Comprehensive Plan. The Social Media page will display data, meeting information, and will allow for comments throughout the planning process.

Throughout the plan process, the Plan Commission will act as the standing oversight committee. From time to time additional persons may be invited to provide information to the planning process.

The Plan Commission will review the plan and recommend its approval to the City Council.

## III. Distribution, Implementation & Update:

Upon completion and adoption of the Comprehensive Plan it will be distributed to all adjoining units of government, Lincoln County, the Wisconsin Department of Administration, and other interested parties. The City will make its best efforts to implement the findings of the Comprehensive plan through a variety of tools, including zoning. As with all plans, it is critical for them to be maintained and updated on a regular basis.

## CHAPTER 1: DEMOGRAPHICS

### 1. Background

The City of Merrill is located in southern Lincoln County and is located at the confluence of the Wisconsin and Prairie Rivers. The rivers divide the city into three distinct areas, one is south of the Wisconsin River, while the other two areas are north of the Wisconsin River, and are east or west of the Prairie River. Merrill is the county seat and has a 2014 estimated population of 9,575, which is about 33 percent of the total county population. The city encompasses about 5,000 acres.

Merrill is located along USH 51 which runs north to south through Lincoln County. Twenty miles north on USH 51 is Tomahawk and 15 miles south is the City of Wausau, Marathon County. All three cities are also located along the Wisconsin River corridor.

See the locational reference map.

#### A. Plan Overview

The comprehensive plan is a local government's guide to community physical, social, and economic development. Comprehensive plans are not land use regulations in themselves; instead, they provide a rational basis for local land use decisions with a twenty-year vision for future planning and community decisions.

This plan replaces the previous plan adopted in 2007.

#### B. Community History

Native Americans inhabited the Merrill area for thousands of years, but left little permanent record, except for some burial grounds identified along the rivers. Beginning in 1836, when Wisconsin became a territory, the United States government actively began to acquire title to all Wisconsin lands. By 1848, most lands in Wisconsin had been acquired by the U.S. government. Reservations were created by 1854, providing the Chippewa lands at Red Cliff, Bad River, Lac du Flambeau, and Lac Court Oreilles.

Merrill's modern history begins in 1847 when a Scotsman by the name of Andrew Warren came to the area and began construction of a dam on the

Wisconsin River downstream of the Prairie River near what is today known as Mill Street. A small settlement sprang up around the dam and sawmill, which was first named “Jenny Bull Falls” by Warren. Within a few years, however, the name was shortened to “Jenny”.

In 1881, the City’s name was changed to “Merrill”, after S.S. Merrill, the general manager of the Chicago Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, which served the community at the time. The city was incorporated in 1883, and lumberman T.B. Scott was elected the city’s first mayor. As the county government came, and settlers continued to move to the area, major lumber industries were beginning to dictate the geographic development of the town, through the most advantageous river locations for their mills. The first City Hall was constructed in 1889, the same year Merrill received electrical service. Other public amenities which came to Merrill during these years was telephone service (1881), a police department (1883), a city waterworks (1887), an organized fire department (1887), a hospital (1892), and a public library (1891).

As the supply of pine timber depleted, Merrillites were resigned to finding ways of diversifying their economy to support the lifestyle that the lumber boom years had given them. A wide variety of new industries were introduced to Merrill in the next several decades. Despite the demise of the lumber industry in northern Wisconsin, these were times of civic growth for Merrill, with the construction of the new Lincoln County Courthouse in 1902, the establishment of a county teacher’s training school, and a hospital, as well as a number of elementary schools around the city.

As Merrill advanced into the twentieth century, industrial diversification continued, as well as commercial and residential development. Merrill has a long history of educational, cultural, recreational, religious, and governmental pride and excellence.

Much of the previous information was extracted from the previous plan.

### C. Planning Context

Planning and zoning has been a function of local units of government for over 50 years in Wisconsin. Existing authority for planning is provided in state statutes, including §. 59, 60, 61 and 62.

Over the years almost every city, village and county has developed various plans, from land use plans, to master plans to development plans. The comprehensive planning law (§.66.1001) requires all jurisdictions within the state that exercise control over land-use to prepare a comprehensive plan by 2010. It lays out the nine required

elements of the plan and requires a public participation process. Jurisdictions that do not have a comprehensive plan in place by the deadline may not engage in actions that impact land-use. The statute outlines the requirements that must be satisfied, specifically for those that utilize the State grant program to develop their plan.

#### D. Previous Plans

All planning efforts need to examine relevant previous plans about the community and the surrounding county and region. Those plans are discussed below:

##### 1. The City of Merrill

A variety of comprehensive and land use plans have been developed for the City. These are identified below:

##### Comprehensive Plan, 2007

The 2007 plan was the first comprehensive plan in accordance with Wisconsin Comprehensive Planning law. The plan included the nine required elements. These are: Issues and Opportunities, Natural Resources, Housing, Utilities and Community Facilities, Transportation, Economic Development, Land Use, Intergovernmental Cooperation, and Implementation. The 2007 plan also established 30 overall goals.

##### Comprehensive Plan, 1997

Although this plan is titled a comprehensive plan, it was adopted prior to the 1999 Comprehensive Planning Law, and does not discuss many of the now required components. The plan includes four basic sections covering some general goals, objective and polices, land use plan, transportation plan, and implementation.

##### Comprehensive Plan, 1982

This plan was also titled a comprehensive plan and incorporates economic development, public services, community development, in addition to land use and transportation. The plan includes thirteen sections, however much of this plan is outdated.

##### 2. Lincoln County

A variety of plans have been developed at the county level and those that relate will be discussed in later chapters, such as the Outdoor Recreation

Plan, the Land & Water Conservation Plan and the All hazard Mitigation Plan.

### Lincoln County Comprehensive Plan, 2000

The county plan was the first county plan adopted under the new 1999 Comprehensive Planning Law. This document covers all of the towns in the county and covers all nine of the required elements. The plan is made up of two basic sections: Inventory and Analysis and Plan Recommendations. Each town also has their own Town Land Use Plan as part of the county plan. The County Comprehensive Plan was amended in 2003.

### 3. The Region

The City is included in the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) area. The NCWRPC is one of nine regional planning commissions in the State of Wisconsin. The North Central region includes ten counties, loosely following the upper Wisconsin River Valley. The NCWRPC is a voluntary association of governments tasked with the mission of providing planning assistance to the communities throughout the Region.

### Regional Livability Plan, 2015

The Regional Livability Plan (RLP), adopted by the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission in 2015, is an update and expansion to the Regional Comprehensive Plan: A Framework for the Future, 2002-2020. The RLP is an advisory document focusing on four specific elements; housing, economic development, transportation, and land use.

The RLP includes individual stand-alone documents for each of the four elements, and a regional demographics assessment, bringing attention to key livability issues. The RLP incorporates the HUD livability principles, which include more transportation choices, promoting equitable & affordable housing, enhance economic competitiveness, support existing communities; coordinate polices & leverage investment, and value communities & neighborhoods. The RLP introduces goals that can create a more livable and sustainable region addressing regional, state, and national trends.

## 2 Demographics

Socio-economic information and projections are important to understanding what has occurred within a community. Below we look at total population, age distribution, households, educational levels, employment and income levels. Data is presented for 1990, 2000, 2010 and 2013, if available.

### A. Population

In 2013, 9,575 people lived in the city of Merrill, a 2.9 percent decrease since 1990. In comparison, the county experienced a 6.1 percent increase in population over the same time period. Population in the city and county increased between 1990 and 2000, but decreased steadily over the last 13 years. The city lost 571 residents between 2000 and 2013.

Table 1 displays total population for the city, each local unit of government (minor civil division) surrounding the city, the county, and the state. The city is the only municipality to lose population over the past 23 years. The Town of Pine River experienced the largest increase in population, adding 398 people since 1990, a 25.6 percent increase in population. Since 2010, the city of Merrill, the Town of Merrill, and Lincoln County all lost population.

(Insert Table 1 Population)

### B. Population Projections

The City of Merrill's population is projected to increase over the next 15 years (2015-2030) before decreasing to 8,990 by 2040. Populations in the Merrill area are projected to peak between 2030 and 2035. All municipalities and the County project a decrease in population between 2035 and 2040. However, the State of Wisconsin projects a steady increase in population over the next 25 years. Only the City of Merrill is projected to have a population in 2040 that is less than their 2013 population (9,575).

(Insert Table 2 Population Projections)

### C. Age Distribution

The North Central Region experienced a 3.9 percent decrease in people aged 17 and under between 2000 and 2010. The State of Wisconsin experienced a similar decrease in population aged 17 and under, decreasing 2 percent over the same time period. Following the regional

and state trends, the City of Merrill experienced a significant decrease in population aged 17 and under. Between 2000 and 2010, population aged 17 and under in the City of Merrill decreased 10 percent. Between 2010 and 2013, the 17 and under population in the City of Merrill decreased an additional 11 percent. As a result, the percentage of population under 17 was roughly 21 percent of the total population in 2013, a 4 percent decrease from 2000.

Lincoln County's 17 and under population decreased 21 percent between 2000 and 2013, five percent over the past 3 years. Only the Town of Scott increased their population under 17 over the 13 year period. The Town of Scott experienced an 11.1 percent increase between 2000 and 2013. The Town of Pine River and the Town of Scott both experienced an increase in persons less than 17 years of age between 2010 and 2013. In comparison, the City of Merrill's 17 and under population decreased 256 people and Lincoln County's population decreased 344 people in the last 3 years. All towns had population increases over the last 23 years, so this means that fewer families who are moving into the surrounding towns are having children, or they are having fewer children.

(Insert Table 3 Persons 17 Years of Age and Younger)

Between 2000 and 2010, the percentage of the region's population over the age of 65 increased 1.7 percent from 15.2 percent in 2000 to 16.9 percent in 2010. Lincoln County and the State of Wisconsin's population over the age of 65 increased 8.6 percent and 10.6 percent respectively between 2000 and 2010.

The surrounding towns experienced a significantly higher growth in persons aged 65 years and older. Between 2000 and 2010, the Town of Merrill's population over 65 years of age increased 39.5 percent. The Town of Pine River and Town of Scott increased their 65 and over population 60.2 percent and 31.3 percent respectively. However, the City of Merrill decreased their 65 and over population 6.2 percent during the 10 year period from 1,999 to 1,876, a 123 person reduction. The City decreased their population over 65 an additional 4.6 percent (93 persons) between 2010 and 2013. As a result, 18.6 percent of the total population in the City of Merrill was comprised of people over the age of 65 in 2013, a one percent decrease from 2000.

According to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics, the baby boom generation (1946-1964) will move entirely into the 65 years and older age group by 2030. It is estimated that there are roughly 76 million "baby boomers" in the United States. Regional projections show the region's population aged 65 to 84 will increase at a rate of 78.9 percent between 2010 and 2030, and the population aged 85 and over will increase 49.1

percent over the 20 year time period. This increase in population over the age of 65 will have a tremendous impact on communities. Programs and services, like housing, transportation, and healthcare, will need to be increased and modified to address the change in population.

(Insert Table 4 Population over 65)

Between 2000 and 2013, the City of Merrill decreased its total population by 571 people. During the same time period, the combined decrease in population under 17 and over 65 years of age was 724 people. This indicates that the City increased its population between the ages of 18 and 64.

#### D. Households

A household includes all the people who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence. The city trend of households reflects the national trend of fewer people living within the same household. Smaller household sizes results in more households. The two largest demographic groups, Baby Boomers (76 million people) and their children, Generation Y or Millennials (79.8 million people), have a considerable impact on household sizes and the increase in households. Millennials are defined as people born between 1977 and 1995. All Millennials are now over the age of 18, many of which are moving into their own housing units.

The combination of Baby Boomers becoming empty nesters (one or two person households), and Millennials become new households, has increased the total number of households. This phenomenon helps explain how the City of Merrill decreased its population 2.9 percent between 1990 and 2013, but increased the number of households by 21 percent. All Towns, the County, and the State increased population over the 23 year period, but increased households at a much faster pace.

Decreasing average household size will continue to be a trend that is likely to continue through the next twenty years. The number of households within the city has grown by 822 units over the past 23 years. The growth in households has mainly occurred during the past 3 years. Between 2000 and 2010 the City of Merrill decreased the number of households by 8 households. Between 2010 and 2013, the City increased the number of households by 566. During that same time period, the City decreased total population by 86 people.

However, the City of Merrill has experienced a slower growth in households compared to the surrounding Towns, the County, and the State. Total households in the State increased 44.1 percent over the past

23 years. All Towns and the County increased households at a higher rate than the State. Lincoln County increased the number of households by 42.8 percent between 2000 and 2013, double the State's rate for that time period. The surrounding Towns all exceeded the City of Merrill's household growth of 13.3 percent by at least 10 percent over the 13 year period.

(Insert Table 5 Households)

The Housing and Land Use elements further examine how these population and household trends will affect number of housing units, and how they may be placed on the land.

#### E. Educational levels

Educational attainment improved overall between 1990 and 2013. The number of high school graduates over the age of 25 increased 1,142 people in the city from 4,503 people in 1990 to 5,645 people in 2000, a 25.4 percent increase. All of the surrounding towns had higher percentage increases during the time period. The Town of Merrill increased by 57.1 percent, the Town of Pine River increased by 88.5 percent, and the Town of Scott increased by 75.6 percent.

(Insert Table 6: High School Education)

The rate of persons 25 and older with four or more years of college decreased 4.2 percent in the city between 1990 and 2013. After increasing 157 people between 1990 and 2000, the number of persons over 25 who have completed four or more years of college decreased by 192 people between 2000 and 2013. In comparison, all of the surrounding towns increased the number of persons over 25 who have completed four or more years of college significantly since 1990.

The Town of Merrill experienced a 107.9 percent increase, the Town of Pine River a 319 percent increase, and the Town of Scott a 476.9 percent increase over the time period. The smaller population size and smaller total number of people over 25 with four or more years in college in 1990 has an impact the higher percent change. Lincoln County increased the number of persons who have completed four or more years of college by 1,113 people, a 58.5 percent increase since 1990.

(Insert Table 7 Persons with four or more years of college)

Taken together these two education indicators show a city with a good base education, but struggles to attract and retain professionals with four or more years of college. The high number of high school graduates

point to a skilled workforce able to support the kind of manufacturing industry which has been the mainstay of the City economy for many years. However, as the manufacturing industry continues to progress and becomes more technical, the need for higher educated individuals with specific technical degrees will increase. Failure to attract persons with more than a high school education will impact the areas businesses and employment. National trends show manufacturers requiring workers who are trained to work sophisticated mechanical machines. Many of which require special certifications.

#### F. Employment

In 2013, there were 4,600 residents employed in the city, 126 fewer employed residents than in 2000. In 2000, there were over 4,726 residents employed in the city. This reflected a 4.6 percent increase in the city's employed population between 1990 and 2000. The city decreased employment 2.7 percent between 2000 and 2013. The Town of Merrill and Lincoln County experienced similar employment trends. The Town of Merrill decreased employment 2.1 percent and Lincoln County decreased employment 3.8 percent between 2000 and 2013 after increasing employment between 1990 and 2010. The Town of Pine River and the Town of Scott increased employment between 2000 and 2013 15.1 percent and 5.7 percent respectively. Employment within the State of Wisconsin has increased steadily since 1990, with a majority of the increase in employment occurring between 1990 and 2000 (14.6%).

(Insert Table 8 Total Employed Persons)

The Economic Development and Land Use Chapters further examine employment, including employment projections.

#### G. Income levels

Median Household Income and Per Capita Income are the two major indicators of income. The city's median household income rose about 61 percent between 1990 and 2013 to \$38,813, compared to a 94.7 percent increase at the county level, and a 78 percent increase at the state level.

Overall, the City of Merrill's median household income increased \$14,739 over the 23 year period. The surrounding town's median household income increased significantly faster. The Town of Merrill's median household income increased \$38,309, a 137.6 percent increase. The Town of Pine River's median income increased \$34,937, a 121.7 percent increase and the Town of Scott's median income increased \$34,434, a 118 percent increase. As a result, the City of Merrill's median income is \$24,812 less than the next lowest median income, the Town of Scott

(\$63,625). The City of Merrill's median household income is \$10,208 less than Lincoln County's median income.

(Insert Table 9 Median Household Income)

The city's per capita income increased by approximately 85 percent between 1990 and 2013, compared to the county at 108.6 percent, and the state increase of 107.3 percent. Note that these changes have not been adjusted for inflation. The City of Merrill's per capita income increased just over \$10,000 over the 23 year period. The Town of Pine River experienced the highest per capita income growth, increasing \$20,119 over the same time period. Overall, the City of Merrill had the smallest increase in per capita income resulting in the lowest per capita income in 2013.

(Insert Table 10 Per Capita Income)

The smaller average household sizes in the City of Merrill help explain some of the gap in median household incomes between the city and the surrounding townships. The City of Merrill does have a smaller per capita income, but the smaller average household size and low median household income would indicate that there are more one person households and/or one earner households in the City of Merrill than in the surrounding townships.

The median household size is further explained in the Housing Element of the plan.

#### H. Race

In 2013, nearly 96 percent of the city residents were White. The largest minority group identified was Black race, 2 percent of the population. Following Black was Asian & Pacific Islander and Other Race. Other Race includes citizens who identify themselves as two or more races. Hispanic origin is not considered a race, but it is identified in the U.S. Census. About 2 percent of the population lists Hispanic backgrounds. In 1990, over 99 percent listed their race as White, although there has been percentage changes over the decade, these represent very small numbers of persons. Merrill mirrors the race distribution of the county. Overall, about 17 percent of the state's population is categorized as minority (non-white). In comparison, 5.1 percent of the City of Merrill's population is categorized as minority and only 3.3 percent of the County's population is categorized as minority.

(Insert Table 11 Race)

<b>Table 1: Population</b>						
<b>Minor Civil Division</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>1990-2013 Net Change</b>	<b>1990-2013 % Change</b>
City of Merrill	9,860	10,146	9,661	9,575	-285	-2.9%
Town of Merrill	2,716	2,979	2,980	2,971	255	9.4%
Town of Pine River	1,552	1,877	1,869	1,950	398	25.6%
Town of Scott	1,210	1,287	1,432	1,439	229	18.9%
Lincoln County	26,993	29,641	28,743	28,650	1,657	6.1%
State of Wisconsin	4,891,769	5,363,675	5,686,986	5,706,871	815,102	16.7%

Source: US Census, 2009-2013 ACS 5-year Estimates

<b>Table 2: Population Projections</b>						
<b>Minor Civil Division</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>2040</b>
City of Merrill	9,345	9,460	9,625	9,690	9,500	8,990
Town of Merrill	2,920	3,015	3,135	3,215	3,215	3,105
Town of Pine River	1,840	1,910	1,990	2,060	2,070	2,010
Town of Scott	1,425	1,510	1,605	1,685	1,720	1,695
Lincoln County	28,415	29,170	30,100	30,750	30,580	29,355
State of Wisconsin	5,783,015	6,005,080	6,203,850	6,375,910	6,476,270	6,491,635

Source: Wisconsin DOA

**Table 3: Persons 17 Years of Age and Younger**

Minor Civil Division	1990	2000	2010	2013	2000-2013 Net Change	2000-2013 % Change
City of Merrill	2,482	2,563	2,311	2,055	-508	-19.8%
Town of Merrill	813	774	631	614	-160	-20.7%
Town of Pine River	467	506	387	393	-113	-22.3%
Town of Scott	353	325	334	361	36	11.1%
Lincoln County	7,271	7,541	6,302	5,958	-1,583	-21.0%
State of Wisconsin	1,288,982	1,368,756	1,339,492	1,325,144	-43,612	-3.2%

Source: US Census, 2009-2013 ACS 5-year Estimates

<b>Table 4: Persons 65 Years of Age and Older</b>						
<b>Minor Civil Division</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2000-2013 Net Change</b>	<b>2000-2013 % Change</b>
City of Merrill	1,912	1,999	1,876	1,783	-216	-10.8%
Town of Merrill	280	324	452	482	158	48.8%
Town of Pine River	149	171	274	259	88	51.5%
Town of Scott	118	131	172	151	20	15.3%
Lincoln County	4,375	4,852	5,269	5,393	541	11.2%
State of Wisconsin	651,221	702,553	777,314	802,253	99,700	14.2%

Source: US Census, 2009-2013 ACS 5-year Estimates

<b>Table 5: Total Households</b>						
<b>Minor Civil Division</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>1990-2013 Net Change</b>	<b>1990-2013 % Change</b>
City of Merrill	3,919	4,183	4,175	4,741	822	21.0%
Town of Merrill	954	1,125	1,204	1,385	431	45.2%
Town of Pine River	519	673	754	880	361	69.6%
Town of Scott	399	458	537	578	179	44.9%
Lincoln County	10,159	11,721	12,094	16,743	6584	64.8%
State of Wisconsin	1,822,118	2,084,544	2,279,768	2,626,142	804024	44.1%

Source: US Census, 2009-2013 ACS 5-year Estimates

**Table 6: Persons 25 and Over Who Have Completed Four Years of High School or More**

Minor Civil Division	1990	2000	2013	1990-2013 Net Change	1990-2013 % Change
City of Merrill	4,503	5,382	5,645	1142	25.4%
Town of Merrill	1,302	1,692	2,046	744	57.1%
Town of Pine River	705	1,056	1,329	624	88.5%
Town of Scott	512	682	899	387	75.6%
Lincoln County	12,483	16,414	18,385	5902	47.3%
State of Wisconsin	2,432,154	2,957,461	3,464,173	1,032,019.00	42.4%

Source: US Census, 2009-2013 ACS 5-year Estimates

**Table 7: Persons 25 and Older Who Have Completed Four or More Years of College**

Minor Civil Division	1990	2000	2013	1990-2013 Net Change	1990-2013 % Change
City of Merrill	825	982	790	-35	-4.2%
Town of Merrill	189	292	393	204	107.9%
Town of Pine River	79	172	331	252	319.0%
Town of Scott	26	92	150	124	476.9%
Lincoln County	1,903	2,732	3,016	1113	58.5%
State of Wisconsin	548,970	779,273	1,025,854	476,884	86.9%

Source: US Census, 2009-2013 ACS 5-year Estimates

**Table 8: Total Employed Persons (16 and Over)**

Minor Civil Division	1990	2000	2013	1990-2013 Net Change	1990-2013 % Change
City of Merrill	4,520	4,726	4,600	80	1.8%
Town of Merrill	1,380	1,583	1,549	169	12.2%
Town of Pine River	800	1,018	1,172	372	46.5%
Town of Scott	620	778	822	202	32.6%
Lincoln County	12,363	14,530	13,982	1619	13.1%
State of Wisconsin	2,386,439	2,734,925	2,839,636	453,197	19.0%

Source: US Census, 2009-2013 ACS 5-year Estimates

<b>Table 9: Median Household Income</b>					
<b>Minor Civil Division</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2013*</b>	<b>1990-2013 Net Change</b>	<b>1990- 2013 % Change</b>
City of Merrill	\$ 24,074	\$ 33,098	\$ 38,813	\$ 14,739	61.2%
Town of Merrill	\$ 27,847	\$ 48,875	\$ 66,156	\$ 38,309	137.6%
Town of Pine River	\$ 28,696	\$ 47,723	\$ 63,633	\$ 34,937	121.7%
Town of Scott	\$ 29,191	\$ 50,441	\$ 63,625	\$ 34,434	118.0%
Lincoln County	\$ 25,175	\$ 39,120	\$ 49,021	\$ 23,846	94.7%
State of Wisconsin	\$ 29,442	\$ 43,791	\$ 52,413	\$ 22,971	78.0%

\* Adjusted for Inflation

Source: US Census, 2009-2013 ACS 5-year Estimates

<b>Table 10: Per Capita Income</b>					
<b>Minor Civil Division</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>1990-2013 Net Change</b>	<b>1990- 2013 % Change</b>
City of Merrill	\$ 11,758	\$ 17,429	\$ 21,772	\$ 10,014	85.2%
Town of Merrill	\$ 11,322	\$ 18,677	\$ 27,481	\$ 16,159	142.7%
Town of Pine River	\$ 11,322	\$ 18,449	\$ 31,441	\$ 20,119	177.7%
Town of Scott	\$ 12,151	\$ 19,759	\$ 28,531	\$ 16,380	134.8%
Lincoln County	\$ 11,828	\$ 17,940	\$ 24,669	\$ 12,841	108.6%
State of Wisconsin	\$ 13,276	\$ 21,271	\$ 27,523	\$ 14,247	107.3%

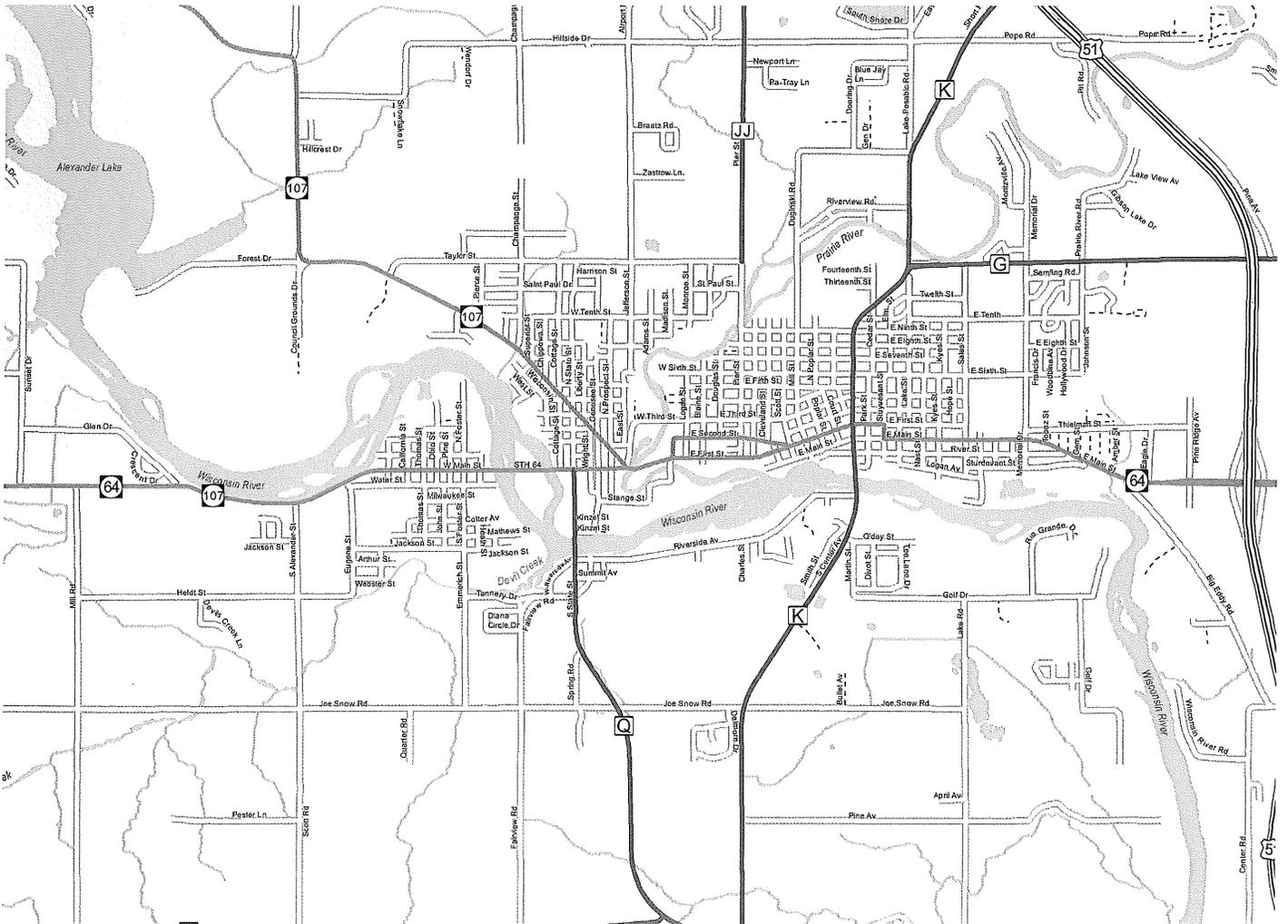
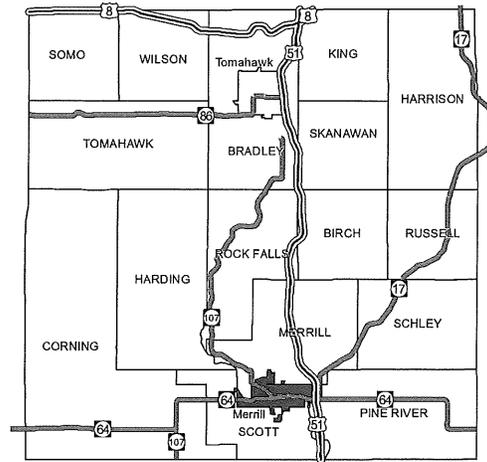
\* Adjusted for Inflation

Source: US Census, 2009-2013 ACS 5-year Estimates

<b>Table 11: Race</b>						
<b>Minor Civil Division</b>	<b>1990 (%)</b>	<b>2000 (%)</b>	<b>2010 (%)</b>	<b>2013 (%)</b>	<b>1990-2010 % Change</b>	<b>1990-2013 % Change</b>
<b>City of Merrill</b>						
<b>Total Population</b>	9,860	10,146	9,661	9,575		
White	99.16%	97.77%	96.30%	95.60%	-2.9%	-3.6%
Hispanic	0.44%	1.00%	2.00%	2.00%	354.5%	354.5%
Black	0.08%	0.20%	0.50%	0.90%	525.0%	1025.0%
American Indian	0.29%	0.54%	0.40%	0.60%	37.9%	106.9%
Asian & Pacific Islander	0.43%	0.46%	0.60%	0.80%	39.5%	86.0%
Other Race	0.04%	1.02%	0.80%	0.80%	1900.0%	1900.0%
<b>Town of Merrill</b>						
<b>Total Population</b>	2,716	2,979	2,980	2,971		
White	99.71%	98.69%	98.60%	100.00%	-1.1%	0.3%
Black	0.07%	0.10%	0.20%	0.00%	185.7%	-100.0%
American Indian	0.11%	0.17%	0.20%	0.00%	81.8%	-100.0%
Asian & Pacific Islander	0.07%	0.27%	0.30%	0.00%	328.6%	-100.0%
Other Race	0.04%	0.77%	0.20%	0.00%	400.0%	-100.0%
<b>Town of Pine River</b>						
<b>Total Population</b>	1,552	1,877	1,869	1,950		
White	99.81%	98.51%	98.50%	97.90%	-1.3%	-1.9%
Black	0.00%	0.05%	0.20%	0.00%	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
American Indian	0.00%	0.00%	0.10%	0.00%	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Asian & Pacific Islander	0.06%	0.59%	0.30%	0.00%	400.0%	-100.0%
Other Race	0.13%	0.85%	0.20%	0.00%	53.8%	-100.0%
<b>Town of Scott</b>						
<b>Total Population</b>	1,210	1,287	1,432	1,439		
White	99.26%	98.83%	98.70%	99.30%	-0.6%	0.0%
Black	0.08%	0.16%	0.30%	0.00%	275.0%	-100.0%
American Indian	0.41%	0.23%	0.30%	0.00%	-26.8%	-100.0%
Asian & Pacific Islander	0.08%	0.08%	0.10%	0.00%	25.0%	-100.0%
Other Race	0.17%	0.70%	0.20%	0.00%	17.6%	-100.0%
<b>Lincoln County</b>						
<b>Total Population</b>	26,993	29,641	28,743	28,650		
White	98.96%	97.76%	97.20%	97.10%	-1.8%	-1.9%
Hispanic	0.44%	0.80%	1.20%	1.20%	172.7%	172.7%
Black	0.31%	0.41%	0.50%	0.80%	61.3%	158.1%
American Indian	0.36%	0.44%	0.30%	0.30%	-16.7%	-16.7%
Asian & Pacific Islander	0.29%	0.42%	0.40%	0.60%	37.9%	106.9%
Other Race	0.09%	0.97%	0.50%	0.40%	455.6%	344.4%
<b>Wisconsin</b>						
<b>Population</b>	4,891,769	5,363,675	5,686,986	5,706,871		
White	92.25%	88.93%	86.20%	87.00%	-6.6%	-5.7%
Hispanic	1.91%	3.60%	5.90%	6.10%	208.9%	219.4%
Black	5.00%	5.68%	6.30%	6.20%	26.0%	24.0%
American Indian	0.81%	0.88%	1.00%	0.90%	23.5%	11.1%
Asian & Pacific Islander	1.10%	1.68%	2.30%	2.30%	109.1%	109.1%
Other Race	0.85%	2.83%	2.40%	1.50%	182.4%	76.5%

Source: US Census, 2009-2013 ACS 5-year Estimates

# Map ? Locational City of Merrill



0 0.5 1 Miles

This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as one. This drawing is a compilation of records, information and data used for reference purposes only. NCWRPC is not responsible for any inaccuracies herein contained.



## North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

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Attachment: Demographic Info (1134 : Review draft of Comprehensive Plan Chapter 1: Demographics)